



**PIPC**

Partnership to Improve Patient Care

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## **Comparative Effectiveness Research Inventory Launched**

*New user-friendly database to track federally-sponsored CER work*

**WASHINGTON – November 16, 2010** - The [Partnership to Improve Patient Care](#) (PIPC) today launched the CER Inventory, an online research tool that gives researchers, providers and patients comprehensive information on federally funded comparative effectiveness research.

“The PIPC CER Inventory responds to a gap identified by the Federal Coordinating Council for Comparative Effectiveness Research, which noted a need for tools to take inventory of ongoing CER projects,” PIPC Chairman Tony Coelho said.

The CER Inventory provides a single, comprehensive, easy-to-use database of federally supported CER projects. These include CER studies currently being funded by agencies within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and other CER studies being funded by the Effective Health Care Program at the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). The database can be accessed through PIPC’s website at [www.ImprovePatientCare.org](http://www.ImprovePatientCare.org) or directly at [www.cerinventory.org](http://www.cerinventory.org).

“The CER Inventory puts all of that information in one place and makes it easier for patients and providers to search for research on a specific topic,” Coelho said. “We hope it proves to be a valuable resource for researchers, the patient and provider communities, and the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute.”

Other patient and health care advocacy groups agreed that the database will be an important tool for those looking for credible CER information.

“Patients need to have access to the best treatment information possible and this database, for the first time ever, will give us critical, useful treatment information at our fingertips,” Angela Ostrom, director of federal relations at the Epilepsy Foundation said. “We appreciate PIPC's work to help make sure this information is available at the point of patient need.”

“As health care providers, it’s important that we have access to the most up-to-date information comparing treatment options so that we can discuss those options with our patients and best personalize their care,” Dr. Jim Fasules, senior vice president for advocacy for the American College of Cardiology said. “This database gives researchers, medical societies, physicians, and patient advocacy organizations a valuable new tool to help stay up to date with ongoing comparative effectiveness research.”

**About PIPC**

The Partnership to Improve Patient Care was formed in November 2008 to support proposals to expand the government's role in comparative effectiveness research that are centered on patient and provider needs; raise awareness about the value of well-designed CER; and promote the important role of continued medical innovation as part of the solution to cost and quality challenges in health care. Partnership members include a wide range of health care organizations representing patient, provider and industry advocacy groups. For more information on PIPC, visit <http://www.improvepatientcare.org>.

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